

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed December 21, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-30 were pending in this application. Claims 1-26 were rejected, and Claims 27-30 were allowed.

Objection to the Drawings

Figure 3 was objected to as not having appropriate labels in the drawing. Figure 3 has been amended as helpfully suggested by the examiner. A replacement sheet for Figure 3 is enclosed herewith for review by the examiner. Applicants respectfully request acceptance of the Figure 3 replacement sheet for entry into the file wrapper of the instant application. No new matter has been added to the drawing Figures.

Objection to the Specification

The disclosure was objected to because of informalities regarding references to figures included in Figure 3 and 4. The disclosure has been amended and replacement paragraphs are enclosed herewith. No new matter has been added to the disclosure.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C., second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 21 has been canceled.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-20 and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mos et al. (U.S. 6,260,146 B1) in view of Lombreschi (U.S. 5,818,274). Claims 1-20 and 22-26 have been canceled.

Allowable Claims

Claims 27-30 were allowed.

All amendments are made in a good faith effort to advance the prosecution on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to subsequently take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part and/or divisional applications.

Applicants respectfully submit that no amendments have been made to the pending claims for the purpose of overcoming any prior art rejections that would restrict the literal scope of the claims or equivalents thereof.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments submitted herein be entered, and further request reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all objections and rejections, and that there be an early notice of allowance.

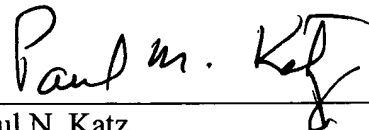
SUMMARY

In light of the above amendments and remarks Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or facsimile.

Applicants believe that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicants respectfully request that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefor, and direct that any and all fees due are charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. **Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.) Order Number 068354.1027.**

Respectfully submitted,

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February 3, 2005